Amendments to the Claims

The current listing of the claims replaces all previous amendments and listings of the claims.

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (New) Earpiece for behind-the-ear parts of hearing acoustics devices, comprising:

a shank adapted to follow an outer edge of a patient's cavum conchae;

an angled traverse segment connected with the shank and configured to be disposed above the patient's antitragus and to extend in a direction of the patient's porus acusticus externus; and

a broadened portion disposed on the angled traverse segment defining a bore configured to hold a signal conductor in an upper half of the patient's auditory canal and to prevent the signal conductor from covering a portion of a lower half of the patient's auditory canal.

10. (New) Earpiece according to Claim 9, further comprising:

a flexible signal conductor disposed in the broadened portion.

11. (New) Earpiece according to Claim 9, wherein the broadened portion includes an auditory canal tab configured to be disposed only in the upper region of the patient's auditory canal.

12. (New) Earpiece for behind-the-ear parts of hearing acoustics devices, comprising:

a shank adapted to follow an outer edge of a patient's cavum conchae;

an angled traverse segment connected with the shank and configured to be disposed above the patient's antitragus and to extend in a direction of the patient's porus acusticus externus; and

a broadened portion disposed on the angled traverse segment configured to hold a signal conductor in an upper region of the patient's auditory canal and to prevent the signal conductor from covering a portion of a lower region of the patient's auditory canal,

wherein the broadened portion includes an auditory canal tab configured to be disposed only in the upper region of the patient's auditory canal, and

wherein the auditory canal tab defines a bore configured to hold the signal conductor.

13. (New) Earpiece according to Claim 11, wherein the auditory canal tab has a diameter that is less than a diameter of the patient's auditory canal.

14. (New) Earpiece according to Claim 9, wherein the shank comprises a second shank connecting with the angled traverse segment and extending in an opposite direction to the shank, the second shank configured to follow the outer edge of the patient's cavum conchae.

15. (New) Earpiece according to Claim 14, wherein the second shank is adapted to extend to a location behind the patient's antitragus.

16. (New) Earpiece according to Claim 9, wherein the at least one of the shank, the angled traverse segment, and the broadened portion is adapted for use with cochlear implant microphones, CI BTE processors, and BTE tinnitus systems.

17. (New) Earpiece for behind-the-ear parts of hearing acoustics devices, comprising:

a body including a first portion adapted to fit into a patient's cymba conchae and a second portion extending around an edge of the patient's inner ear; and

a protrusion extending from the body, the protrusion defining a bore configured to hold a signal conductor in an upper half of the patient's auditory canal and to prevent the signal conductor from covering a portion of a lower half of the patient's auditory canal.

18. (New) Earpiece according to claim 17, further comprising:

a flexible signal conductor disposed in the protrusion.

19. (New) Earpiece according to claim 18, further comprising:

a protective device disposed on an end of the flexible signal conductor to prevent injury to the patient's auditory canal.

20. (New) Earpiece according to claim 17, further comprising:

a flexible signal conductor having a first portion extending in a direction of extension of the protrusion and a second portion extending in a direction about perpendicular to the first portion,

wherein the first portion is disposed in the protrusion.

21. (New) Earpiece according to claim 17, further comprising:

a flexible signal conductor having a first portion extending in a direction of extension of the protrusion and a second portion extending in a direction about perpendicular to the first portion,

wherein a transition point between the first and second portions of the flexible signal conductor is disposed adjacent the protrusion.

22. (New) Earpiece according to claim 17, wherein the second portion is adapted to fit into the patient's crus anthelicis.

23. (New) Earpiece according to claim 17, wherein the protrusion is adapted to bridge a top segment of the patient's crus helices.

24. (New) Earpiece according to claim 17, wherein the protrusion comprises a broadened portion defining the bore.

25. (New) Earpiece according to claim 17, wherein the protrusion is configured to hold the signal conductor above the patient's incisura anterior, between the patient's tragus and the patient's crus helicus.

26. (New) Earpiece according to claim 17, wherein the protrusion is configured to be recessed between the patient's incisura anterior and the patient's tragus, in an entrance region of the patient's auditory canal.

27. (New) Earpiece according to claim 17, wherein the protrusion is configured to be disposed apart from an upper region of the patient's auditory canal.

28. (New) Earpiece according to claim 17, wherein the protrusion comprises a support portion configured to extend from a bottom portion in a direction of the patient's antitragus against the patient's cavum conchae.

29. (New) Earpiece according to claim 17, wherein the at least one of the body and the protrusion is adapted for use with cochlear implant microphones, CI BTE processors, and BTE tinnitus systems